

REMARKS

Claims 2 and 3 remain in the application and have been amended hereby.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claim 2 under 35 USC 103, as being unpatentable over the so-called admitted prior art in view of Gefvert and Iwamura further in view of Watanabe.

As previously explained and as shown in the drawings, the present invention is intended to provide a way in which an existing television receiver can be provided as part of a surround sound system by utilizing a portable multi-channel acoustic signal playback apparatus that has at least three speakers. Thus, combined with the speakers of the television receiver the surround sound can be obtained. Such a system is shown in Figs. 1A, 1B, 2A, and 2B, where it is seen that the portable housing can be arranged in the room where the television receiver is located. Thus, the hardwired system, such as shown in Fig. 6A and 6B, need not be used or required and the portable housing can be moved from room to room wherever a television receiver is located. In regard to the recording and reproducing apparatus main body 3 of the so-called admitted prior art, it is respectfully submitted that such a television receiver is not typically viewed as being portable since it contains the cathode ray tube and associated circuitry which render the main body relatively heavy. Nevertheless, claim 2 has been amended hereby to recite the grip 25 of Fig. 1B that may be used by the user to pick up the

portable housing and carry it from room to room.. In this way, surround sound is achieved wherever the television receiver is located.

Gefvert discloses a speaker housing or cabinet with a center speaker and may be used in conjunction with surround speakers that are connected to the output terminals.

Iwamura is cited for showing a television receiver having additional loudspeakers.

Watanabe is cited for showing a switching system in an audio/video amplifier and employs a specific switching system in order to bi-wire the speaker array.

It is respectfully submitted that even combining the selected portions from all of the above-noted references, that the presently claimed invention would not have been obvious. Clearly the so-called admitted prior art as discussed in the specification is the basis for making the present invention and, thus, the portability of the multi-channel acoustic signal reproducing apparatus is the principal feature of this invention. The housing is now recited as having a hand grip and being of a size to be carried by one hand of the user using the hand grip. It is respectfully submitted that this feature is not shown or suggested in any of the cited references, alone or in combination.

It is respectfully submitted that in determining the patentability of an invention where the invention sought to be patented resides in the combination of elements, the proper inquiry is whether bringing the elements together would have been obvious, not whether one of ordinary skill, having the

invention before him, would find it obvious through hindsight to construct the invention from the elements of the prior art. See in re Warner, 379 F2d 1011, 154 USPQ 173 (CCPA 1967).

In regard to bringing prior art teachings together, it should be recognized that the mere fact that the prior art could be modified so as to result in the combination defined by the present claims, would not have made the modification obvious unless the prior art suggests desirability of the modification. See in re Gordon, 733 F2d 900, 221 USPQ 1125 (Fed. Cir. 1984), Carl Schenck AG v. Nortron Corp., 713 F2d 782, 218 USPQ 698 (Fed. Cir. 1983), and in re Sernaker, 702 F2d 989, 217 USPQ 1 (Fed. Cir. 1983).

Therefore, by reason of the amendments made to the claims hereby, as well as the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the presently claimed combination is not rendered obvious by the cited references, alone or in combination.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claim 3 under 35 USC 103, as being unpatentable over the so-called admitted prior art in view of Gefvert and Iwamura and Watanabe and further in view of Endoh et al.

Claim 3 depends from claim 2 which for the reasons set forth hereinabove is thought to be patentably distinct over the cited references and, for at least those very same reasons, claim 3 is also submitted to be patentably distinct thereover.

Endoh et al. relates to a system for down-mixing 5-

channel sound for use in a 2-channel system and includes some switching networks in order to accomplish this down-mixing.

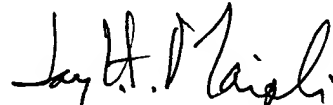
Nevertheless, Endoh et al. does not suggest the use of a portable housing that can be carried from room to room by one hand of the user and that can then be located behind the user, as taught by the present invention and as recited in the amended claims.

Accordingly, in view of the amendments made to the claims hereby, as well as the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that a multichannel acoustic signal reproducing apparatus, as taught by the present invention and as recited in the amended claims, is neither shown nor suggested in the cited references, alone or in combination.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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